

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

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N. R. P. A.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Kinston Free Press didn't ask us a single question last week. What is the matter? This don't often happen.

State Lecturer Bell will speak at Pineville on May 5th; at Huntersville on the 6th, both in Mecklenburg county.

We learn incidentally, but we think from a good source, that there is an overproduction of liars in this country.

No Speculating in futures. Wait until you see the platform and the candidates before you swear that you will support them.

The candidate who expects to oppose the Ocala or St. Louis platforms this year had better hire a substitute to go to the front.

We return thanks for an invitation to the annual commencement of Fairview Institute and Commercial College on the 22-25 of May.

The papers continue to abuse Bro. Butler, but few, if any, attempt to answer his arguments. That is a mighty sorry way for smart people to do.

The politicians have substituted the notice, "keep off politics," for "keep off the grass." But you can't get farmers to listen to such stuff.

Mr. Peete is discussing "Question of Honor" in this issue. He will have more along this line later on. Watch out for it. Read the articles.

An article in "Public Voice" column in the issue for April 19th was signed "E. F. Washfield." It should have been "E. F. Wakefield," Lenoir, N. C.

If the farmers succeed in capturing the machine there will be some howling. If anybody begins to howl we are going to yell nigger! nigger! just as loud as we can.

Make every candidate stand up and say which side he is on. Nominate no man who is only half and half. He will turn out to be only one half and that on the wrong side.

We learn that in some of the primaries already held Alliancemen have been kept out. Please send us affidavit to this effect from every precinct where this has been done.

Must we have some honest hayseed for Governor of North Carolina? It looks that way. Of course a merchant, manufacturer or professional man will do all right—if they are right.

Those fellows who declare that they will bolt the convention if reform measures are put in the platform ought to be intimidated by chairman Smith. It is a poor rule that don't work both ways.

Remember that we have a hundred times more grievances than had our ancestors when they declared their independence. Go to the primaries and don't let any township chairman scare you, either.

Congressmen and Senators say that their salaries are not half enough to enable them to "live in fashionable society in Washington." That doesn't matter, we didn't elect them and don't pay them to play the dude in Washington.

It is funny to see how a little, obscure Allianceman can become a hero by simply kicking against the platform of the Order. But funnier still is his early death after the political papers laud him to the skies.

No man who is a member of a plaid trust or who has anything to do with the American Tobacco Company, or any other trust, for that matter, should ever be allowed to hold another office in North Carolina.

In whose interest was the convention of the Fifth congressional district called? Is it possible for all interests to be as fully represented as if it had not been called the day before the State convention meets?

As all the State offices seem to be going begging for the want of aspirants, the writer hereby announces that he will be a candidate for all of them. We will see that every one of them are swept out just as they now are.

Bro. J. R. Miller, editor of The Living Issue, organ of the Prohibitionists, published at High Point, gave us a pleasant call last week. Bro. Miller is a zealous worker, and is getting out a strong paper for the cause.

A Missouri exchange says: "We don't want any broken-down politician to go to Congress from this district." That will apply in North Carolina. We don't want any such cattle to go from any of the nine districts. Send men.

And they do say that it is wrong for the farmers to want their measures for relief put in the platform. Why, of course it is. But ain't it just as wrong for the politicians to want to force their peculiar views on the people?

Let the straightouts bolt if they want to. None of the honest, sensible straightouts are going to bolt if a reasonable platform is made. If the fools and rascals want to bolt let them go. No party can succeed if they control it.

When a politician asks you if you will stick by the result of this or that convention, tell him that the Alliance has declared against speculating in futures; that you will tell him whether or not you will stick when you see the platform.

We are glad to learn that the good people of Edgecombe are all right. The rantings of the Solomon who edit the Tarboro Southerner cannot interfere with them in the discharge of their duty as citizens. They will be on hand when the roll is called.

Again we ask our friends to write as briefly as they can. Correspondents from all over this and other States want a hearing in our columns. We want them to have it, but when so many write long winded articles, even if good ones it is impossible to publish them all.

Why hold the convention for the Fifth Congressional district just on the eve of the State Convention? Is it possible that some trick is on tap? Hadn't it better be postponed so all interests can be represented properly? There is no occasion for such an early convention.

How about Governor Holt's "democracy"? Three years ago as President of the Senate he cast the tie vote of that body against a railroad commission. Is he a true Democrat? Chairman Smith ought to keep him out, for he is opposed to one of the planks in the platform.

The Wadesboro Messenger and other papers are stating that Dr. N. M. Culbreth, Lecturer for the 6th district, is opposed to the St. Louis platform and says so in his speeches. Bro. Culbreth writes us that this is totally untrue. He endorses it and advocates it in his speeches.

Andrew Carnegie, the great iron king of Pennsylvania, who is worth many millions, says he wants to spend all his wealth before he dies. That may be true, but he reduced the wages of his employees 10 per cent. recently. That don't look like he is ready to spend much yet.

Don't be uneasy about the straightouts. They will swallow every bit of the Ocala and St. Louis platforms and beg for more. Their bluff game is getting weak. But there must be enough to hold them down. Go to the primaries. Take your knitting along and spend the day.

The feature of the approaching commencement of Oak Ridge Institute will be a reunion of the old students on May 31st. Speeches will be delivered by various old students, and a good time generally is expected. Bishop Edward Rondthaler will deliver a dedicatory address.

Many Sub Alliances have sent in resolutions since the St. Louis meeting. All of them are of the same import, i. e., they endorse the action of the meeting. Owing to the number, we have been unable to publish them in full, but have published the names and thus put them on record. This will explain our reasons for not publishing them in full.

Tom Watson writes home that they needn't expect him to make speeches until Congress adjourns in the summer. What a contrast between Watson and Livingston and Moses! The two latter being now in Georgia trying to fool the people, while Watson is trying to do something in Congress.

The Alliance has declared against "dealing in futures" time and again. Yet the politicians want us to swear that we will support any and all platforms they make and any and all candidates they put out. Gentlemen, let us see your candidates and your platforms. Then, if they are all right, you may swear us.

The Wilmington Star is crazy on the tariff question. It wants to see it reduced to 41 per cent. So far as we are concerned, we don't respect the man who robs us of 41 dollars any more than we do the one who robs us of 47 dollars. Away with such a measure. If the tariff is a robbery, crush it out altogether.

About this time some ex-members of the legislature and others, are going into the letter writing business. Some of the members of the last legislature didn't make a very favorable impression on the public. So members of the legislature had better let the country run itself unless they are sure that they stand well.

A gentleman at Vesta, Minnesota, writes that he received a sample copy of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER recently and was so much pleased with its bright, spicy articles that he enclosed the money for the paper during the campaign, and also for a copy of "Bond-holders and Bread-winners," and Peffer's "Farmers' Side."

Let every reform paper, every reform speaker, every private in reform ranks throw aside personal and party preference and go in for solid reform and honest government in North Carolina this year. Begin in the primaries and keep on till you get to the State Convention. Then call a halt and see what has been done.

The Statesville Landmark is surprised to know that any great number of Iredell people would endorse the St. Louis platform. The Landmark is just three years behind the procession. Three years ago the people of Iredell endorsed the St. Louis platform, at least all Alliancemen did. Why in the world should they dodge now?

We are indebted to the publishers, Messrs. Brant & Fuller, of Madison, Wisconsin, for Vols. 1 and 2 of "Cyclopedia of Eminent and Representative Men of the Carolinas." The portraits and sketches are excellent. These books are elegantly bound in real morocco, and will be a valuable addition to any library. The price of the two volumes is \$25.

The papers are still telling that the pension plank is in the St. Louis platform; "that northwestern papers are publishing it;" "that the Secretary of the meeting, who is editor of a paper is publishing it in his paper. This is all a lie. A good many were taken in by the Associated Press report and published it a time or two, but it is out of all papers that are friendly to the cause now.

Your Uncle Zeke Bilkins says he is ready to bolt any convention that has met, may meet, or that is likely to meet. But adds that he is going to see what the convention does before he bolts. He says further that when the dinner bell rings he don't know whether he is going to get a square meal or not. But after an hour's hard work at the table he can make a pretty correct estimate.

The Wilmington Star says: "The truest and most thoughtful men in the Alliance to day, those who wish to see it perpetuated, are trying to keep it out of politics." Yes, they are true. Those who are untrue are the ones who are trying to make it the Democratic, Third or Republican party. "But they can't make." The Star would like to see the Alliance bossed by the Democratic party. But the reverse may be true.

And now they say the Alliance is split up and going to pieces on account of politics. The paid-up membership of Alexander county, is double, for the April report, what it was in January. Every county gives an increase in new members and a number show increase in paidup members. The books of the State Business Agent show over \$100,000 worth of business for the past 30 days. Bring on some more liars.

Some of the political papers now accuse the Alliancemen of saying that "whatever the majority are for is Democracy." Great gewhilkens! gentlemen; that has been the Democratic song for years and years. "Don't Democracy mean "the will of the majority," according to the common interpretation? Anyway, the St. Louis platform is good enough Democracy for us. On to the fray, boys! let's put it in somebody's platform.

Look out, friends! By keeping Alliancemen out of the primaries, and by other tricks, a strong effort is being made to nominate a man for Governor of North Carolina, who has never done anything for the farmers and has done much against them. If these tricks are successful, THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER will fight that man to the last. His name is T. M. Holt. If he is nominated an independent will be the result and he will be beaten. Remember that.

Is there a farmer in North Carolina, no matter whether he raises cotton or not, who will support for Governor a man who belongs to a plaid trust, the object of which is to keep up the price of cotton goods and keep down the price of cotton. There is a candidate in the field of this kind. He has done as much as any one man to make you get 5 and 6 cents for your cotton this year. If you don't raise cotton you are hurt by his crowd every time you buy a yard of cotton goods.

The election in Louisiana two weeks ago was a victory for the Alliance by about 30,000 majority on the vote for Governor. Foster was bitterly opposed by the "straight-out," so-called Democrats. Four candidates were run against him, but he beat them all "clear out o' sight." We have been waiting for the political newspapers to blow about it, but they don't blow. So it becomes our duty to tell the people that the Alliance won the victory and rascality is again be low par.

It costs from \$600 to \$700 to send a car load of strawberries from Florida to New York. A freight car costs about \$800. When we consider that the road is only out of the use of the car about five days and gets nearly first cost for one load of freight, it looks like an argument in favor of government ownership. But never mind about that. The fool who raises strawberries, corn, wheat, oats, cotton and such things ought to be fined for it, any how. We expect it will become a penitentiary offense after awhile.

ALL WOULD BE LOST.

Some time ago THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER gave notice that no man with Governor Holt's record would be acceptable to most of our people for any office. By insulting the people and keeping them away from the primaries, as many have done in the counties that have already held primaries, Governor Holt has mustered some strength. Again we repeat the warning. No ticket with his name on it can win. If the farmers will go to the primaries yet to be held, there is some chance to avert the disaster. It would be supreme folly for people who know reform is needed to vote for a man solidly against it. THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER will be ready to quit business, will feel that all our work has been in vain if such a man could be elected. Go to your conventions. Work.

EXPLANATORY.

We are sorry to learn that the Alliancemen of Guilford and Forsyth were disappointed on last Friday and Saturday. President Butler has out a list of appointments nearly all the time, but never knowing when the interests of the Order will call him to a different section of the State, he has always taken the precaution to arrange to fill his place in case he can't attend. On last Monday he saw that it was necessary to leave his appointments and go to a different part of the State. He called upon Mr. N. B. Broughton to fill his appointments at Smithfield on Tuesday and at Pittsboro on Thursday. Bro. Butler called on two other gentlemen to fill his appointments at Greensboro and Winston. Why these speakers failed to reach there we have not learned. Had President Butler known that they could not be there he would have attended himself or got some other speakers. He always tries to fill all appointments, and no one regrets it more than he does himself.

WATCH FOR LIARS.

It is a good time to look out for political liars. Some of them stay in newspaper offices and manufacture telegrams and communications. Others send them to papers. Watch out for them.

Last Friday the News and Observer and Chronicle contained the following special:

REPUTATES THE ST. LOUIS PLATFORM. (Special to the News and Observer.) WILLIAMSTON, April 28.—All honor to the Martin Alliance. The Martin County Alliance have repudiated the St. Louis platform and have instructed the delegates to the Butler conference against the Third party.

On Tuesday last we received the following from the Secretary of Martin County Alliance:

DARDEN'S, N. C., April 25, 1892. EDITOR THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, RALEIGH, N. C.:

Dear Sir:—The Martin County Farmers' Alliance endorsed the St. Louis, Ocala and Indianapolis platforms at its meeting on the 14th of April without dissent, and Bro. T. E. McCaskey was elected delegate to Raleigh to meet President Butler on the 17th of May.

Yours fraternally, T. E. McCASKEY, Sec'y Martin County Alliance. Now it is plain that a liar is abroad in the land. Who is it?

SOME SECRETS EXPOSED.

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, not being a partisan paper, naturally falls behind in getting political news. But this week we expose some gigantic tricks that are being worked throughout the State. The Alliancemen and farmers generally are determined to capture the "Democratic machine." They ask everybody to help them capture the critter and ride with them.

We are aware that this does not exactly meet the approval of some of our people. Thousands of farmers who have been affiliating with the Democratic party think other arrangements might have been made. To be plain, they think nothing but a new party will fill the bill. Thousands of Republicans in and out of the Alliance, having lost hope in their party, and having no faith in the Democratic party, they naturally want to vote with a new party. To be plain again, we think all of them are right. While we are willing for our demands to go before the national conventions of both the old parties, we have no spark of hope from the monopoly-controlled Republican party nor from the New England-controlled Democratic party. We repeat that we have absolutely no hope and cannot advise our friends to depend on them. However, it is different in North Carolina. While our State Government, under twenty years of Democratic rule, has not been all it might have been, has not been perfect, and we need never expect perfection in politics; yet the contrast has been so great between Republican rule from 1866 to 1870, and Democratic rule since, that our people are loth to let loose and risk worse things. Many people will vote the ticket on account of the name, so we want to give them a chance. Another thing: Our complaints are mostly national, hence we can afford to divorce State and National politics.

Now we want to reason a little more with our Republican and Democratic Alliancemen who may not fully agree with this plan. Had any other policy been pursued, it is almost certain that a "straightout" Republican ticket would have been elected in this State, including members of the legislature, and in many cases county officers. Anybody with half sense knows that this would not better things, and possibly would make them vastly worse. No true Allianceman, be he Republican or Democrat, wants to see things any worse. On the other hand a "straightout" Democratic State ticket might have been elected. This would have been no improvement. Really it would have been making things worse. But if the people will turn out to the primaries and send honest, brave men all through to the State Convention, the State will be saved from both misfortunes and we will get as much reform as through a new party, and not run the risk of losing all chances.

When it comes to selecting Congressmen and Senators and National officers, it will be different. We expect it will be absolutely necessary to elect them on a new party platform. At present we see no other chance. But until this State matter is disposed of we ask every man favoring reform to keep his mouth closed, be he Republican or Democrat. Let's do one thing at a time and proceed cautiously.

Some will say to former Democrats, who are now favoring the new party, that THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER is trying to pull them back into the Democratic party, and to Republicans they will say that it is trying to rope in Republicans and induce them to vote the Democratic ticket. Don't be influenced by them. All who have read this paper know that we have no more confidence in the National Democratic Party than we have in the Republican. We would vote for Harrison or Blaine as quick as we would for Cleveland or Hill. We have no more confidence in many of the Democratic leaders in North Carolina than we have in the Republican leaders in Maine. But it is a condition and not mere sentiment that confronts us here in North Carolina. We cannot afford to risk negro supremacy here. We must do the best we can—choose the lesser of two evils—as it were. If our people will rally to the primaries we will get all we want. Remember that nothing more will be said about your favoring the Ocala or St. Louis platforms. The politicians are sick of that. Go and insist on getting what you want. It is your patriotic duty. You owe it to your country and your family.

GO INTO THE PRIMARIES.

Go into your primaries Go by all means. Take yourself and all your neighbors. Make it a point to see all your neighbors between now and Saturday and urge them to go.

This was the substance of our advice last week. We purposely delayed all this until a late hour so the politicians could have plenty of rope—enough to hang themselves. They have had it and have hung themselves. But now is the time to act. Let every man who

desires reform, whether he is a member of the Alliance or not, act and act quickly. Let four or five days' work be done this week and victory will perch on our banner. Read the paper carefully. Read the lines, and between the lines, read everything that

The State Executive Committee and several township and county executive committees have tried to intimidate the people by telling them that if they believed in the Ocala or St. Louis platforms, they had no right to vote Democratic primary or any convention. This is absolutely false. They can more interfere with your rights as an American citizen than they can keep you out because you are a Baptist or believe in immersion or if you are Methodist and believe in falling from grace.

You may believe in the Ocala or St. Louis platforms; you may have sympathy with the Third or People's party platform; you may be a Catholic or Presbyterian; you may be a Methodist or Odd Fellow; you may believe the earth is round or as flat as a pancake; you may be a life long Republican or Prohibitionist. But if you want to go into the primaries that meet on Saturday, if you believe that a majority of the reformers of the State will be there with you, if you believe that the man can interfere with you, and you can take part in those primaries and subsequent conventions. No man has a right to question your motives. No man has a right to object to your taking part on account of what your beliefs or on account of your past political affiliations. Mark that.

LET'S CATCH THE PIG.

The would-be leaders in North Carolina say the farmers are going to capture the Democratic convention and convert it into a "people's party" by putting in the Ocala and St. Louis platforms or as much of them as the desire.

We have an idea that the Democratic party in North Carolina belongs to the farmers, for they are the bulk of the voters in it. Why object to people capturing their own property? Have they said all along that "is the people's party?"

The trouble is that democracy has gotten away from those who have been pretending to hold it. Chairman Smith let loose to spit on his hands some time ago and he can't catch it. Democracy is like a greased pig at fair. Capt. Ashe has caught it by the tail a time or two, but he can't hold it being a delicate man. Col. Kingbury, LL D., declares that he ain't going to dirty his hands with the matter. Governor Holt is too busy trying to keep down the price of cotton and keep up the price of cotton goods via the Cone Plaid Trust, so he can't catch it. If he should he would declare that it is somebody else's pig, if it didn't bear "his mark." Maj. Robbins, of Statesville, has gotten too hot and short-winded to run much. Col. Paul B. Means, of Concord, has to tend to his railroad business. Col. Caldwell don't like to run and he has been calling on Vance, Ransom and the other leaders in Washington to come and catch the "cussed thing." But Vance has to tell jokes at the Capitol "restaurant" for the fellows who write aprons on, to mix with the drinks. Ransom is hard at work trying to get an appropriation to fill Mosquito Lake, in the eastern part of the State. He declares that "he wouldn't know what to do with it, he could catch it." Hon. John S. Herson can't catch it, for he has been putting in the last six weeks of his eight years in Congress trying to improve the postal system of the United States, and he is "out of breath." B. Furman, of Asheville, declares that he has had a "rabbit hollow" set to trap the blasted thing for years, but he can't catch it. Maj. Finger has heard the pig squeal twice in the last five years, but he couldn't locate it. He thinks it is hid somewhere in Catawba county. Several "leading" and "prominent" Alliancemen have headed off a time or two within the past five years, but they tried to catch it in the old way by putting soap on their hands and chalk on their feet. The result is that the pig slipped out of their hands and their feet slipped out from under them, leaving them completely demoralized. Quite recently somebody reported that the pig was seen down in Georgia. A reward was offered for its capture. Col. Livingslet left his crop badly "in the grass." Washington and has been running with tears in his eyes, ever since. He wouldn't know it from any other "pine roter" down there, for he hasn't seen it, only in his dreams, for years.

The only chance we see for North Carolina is for the farmers to capture the pig. They know more about than politicians, anyhow. We wager a watermelon that they are plenty of sand on their hands and sure it before the 18th of May they will hold it, too. When they catch it they may call it "Ted racy," "Dennis," "Justice," "the people's hog," or what they please. Genuine democracy is good enough anybody.

Boys, now is the time. Put a sack of sand on your hands and fill your pockets. Let's capture the pig. We have a big barbecue on the May. Watch out for it at the primaries, watch for it at the county conventions. Be sure to bring it to the State Convention. Only the try to catch it will be allowed the barbecue.